

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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R 040900Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO AMEMBASSY BISSAU

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4872

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0877

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE'S VIEWS ON THE CONCP

REF: BISSAU 0023

1. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT PRESIDENT MACHEL WOULD LIKE TO KEEP THE FORMER ORGANIZATION WHICH LINKS THE POLITICAL PARTIES OF THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES TOGETHER AS A UNITED, PROGRESSIVE LUSOPHONE GROUP AND LEAD SUCH A GROUPING. HOWEVER, FROM OUR VANTAGE, CONCP SEEMS TO BE FALTERING, POSSIBLY OUT OF LACK OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF SOME OF THE STATES OR BECAUSE OF NOT YET OPENLY ACKNOWLEDGED DISAGREEMENTS AMONG THEM. A LONG TRUMPETED MEETING OF THE HEADS OF STATE OF THE FORMER CONCP COUNTRIES WHICH WAS SCHEDULED FOR MAY, THEN POSTPONED UNTIL JULY, NEVER MATERIALIZED. AND A MEETING OF CONCP FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY HELD IN SAO TOME WAS POORLY ATTENDED AND DREW ONLY ONE FOREIGN MINISTER. MOZAMBIQUE WAS REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OSCAR MONTEIRO. ANGOLA'S DELEGATION WAS LED BY SAIDY MINGAS, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FINANCES. AS BEST AS WE CAN DETERMINE, NOTHING OF IMPORTANCE EMERGED FROM THIS MEETING.

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2. WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT DIFFERENCES AMONG THE CONCP PARTY/STATES EXIST ON TWO LEVELS. ON THE ONE LEVEL, THE SMALLER STATES LIKE GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE DO NOT WANT TO BE PART OF AN ORGANIZATION WHERE THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE DOMINATED BY THE LARGER STATES. ON THE OTHER LEVEL, THE LEADERS OF ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE ARE PROBABLY SPLIT ON WHAT THE ROLE OF THE CONCP SHOULD BE AND WHO SHOULD HEAD IT. UNTIL THESE TWO PROBLEMS ARE RESOLVED, CONCP WILL PROBABLY EXIST -- MUCH AS IT DID DURING THE COLONIAL ERA -- AS A RATHER NEBULOUS, WEAK AND LARGELY INEFFECTIVE POLITICAL LOBBY FOR LUSOPHONE AFRICAN INTERESTS.
DE PREE

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